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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington

December 11, 1953

Memorandum for Mr. J. F. C. Hyde, Jr.
Legislative Reference,
Bureau of the Budget

Subject: Draft Bill "To require the registration of certain persons who have knowledge or have received instruction or assignment in the espionage, counterespionage, or sabotage service or tactics of a foreign government or foreign political party, and for other purposes."

In your memorandum of November 27, 1953 you asked to be advised of the Department's views with respect to certain amendments to the above cited bill suggested by the Department of Justice in its letter to Mr. Dodge, dated November 9, 1953.

Proposed subsections (e), (f), (g), and (h) are satisfactory to the Department.

Section 7 (a) of the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 USC 288d) provides for the exemption from registration under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of persons designated by foreign governments to serve as their representatives in or to international organizations and the officers and employees of such organizations, and members of the immediate families of such representatives, officers, and employees residing with them. It is believed that the draft bill should include similar exemptions from registration for such persons.

One further point should be noted. Mr. Minor states that the proposed bill will remove the requirement that a principal and agent status be established. This means that any person who has knowledge of or has had instruction in espionage, etc., is now subject to registration. In such case, the Department is of the opinion that members of the families of all persons exempt from registration, who are residing with them, should also be exempt under the proposed bill. This was not necessary with respect to the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as members of the families of exempted persons were not ordinarily engaged in activities which made them subject to registration.

Sig. BEN H. BROWN
Deputy Assistant Secretary